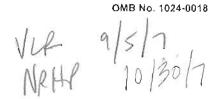
NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. Aug. 2002)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items

1. Name of Property	
historic name Greenway Historic Distric	et (Boundary Increase 2007)
other names/site number DHR File # 021-0963	3-0132, also DHR File # 021-0657
2. Location	
street & number <u>14374 Lord Fairfax Highway</u>	not for publication N/A
city or town White Post	vicinity X
state <u>Virginia</u> code <u>VA</u> county <u>Clarke</u>	code043 zip code22663
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommendstatewideXlocally. (/See continuation sheet for ad Signature of certifying officialVirginia Department of Historic Resources State or Federal Agency or Tribal government	
Signature of commenting official/Title	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification	
1, hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	
See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register	Signature of the Keeper
See continuation sheet.	
determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):	Date of Action

5. Classification			
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Categor	ry of Property (Check only one box)	
X private public-local public-State public-Federal		building(s) _X district site structure object	
Number of Resources within Property			
Contributing Noncontributing	stad in th	e National Register - 0	
Number of contributing resources previously is	stea iii tii	e National Register	
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N	√A" if prope	rty is not part of a multiple property listing.) _	<u>N/A</u>
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: RELIGION FUNERARY	_ Sub: _	Religious facility Cemetery	
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: RELIGION FUNERARY	_ Sub: _ 	Religious facility Cemetery	
7. Description			<u> </u>
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from insomable of the Control of t	structions)		
Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation Stone roof Metal walls Wood; Asbestos other Brick; Concrete			

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)	
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	or
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.	
Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)	
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. B removed from its original location. C a birthplace or a grave. D a cemetery. E a reconstructed building, object, or structure. F a commemorative property. G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Architecture	
Period of Significance1760-1943 (same as original district)	
Significant Dates	
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A	
Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Architect/BuilderN/A	
Alcintect/Builder	
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	
9. Major Bibliographical References	
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)	
Previous documentation on file (NPS) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	

Primary Location of Additional Data
X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government University
Other
Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property1.5 acres
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
1 17 750790 4327327 _2 See continuation sheet.
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) 11. Form Prepared By
name/titleMaral S. Kalbian, Architectural Historian
organization Maral S. Kalbian, LLC date May 31, 2007
street & number P.O. Box 468 telephone 540-955-1231
city or town Berryville state VA zip code 22611
Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:
Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)
Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)
name Ebenezer Baptist Church Trustees c/o Nanette Shepherd
street & number 4011 Bedford Place telephone 301-899-1145
city or townSilver Hill stateMD zip code207463

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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7. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church (DHR # 021-0657) is located adjacent to the northeast boundary of the Greenway National Register Historic District at 14374 Lord Fairfax Highway. According to the datestone, the current building was constructed in 1918 replacing an earlier 1897 church. Built as a Baptist church for an African-American congregation, the 1-story, gable-end frame building is three bays deep and contains a mid-20th-century, shed-roofed, concrete block side wing. The church, which is located on the west side of Route 340 as it makes a turn to the north near the village of White Post, sits on a 1½-acre tract that includes a cemetery containing approximately 200 marked graves. A graveled driveway south of the church leads to a grassy parking area. A modern, five-foot monument sign of brick and plyboard, located in the front yard, states the name of the church and the time of services.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Located on the outskirts of White Post directly adjacent to a northeastern boundary of the Greenway Historic District, Ebenezer Baptist Church was constructed in 1918 on the site of an 1897 church that burned. The 1-story, gable-end frame church, which fronts onto Route 340, rests on a random rubble stone foundation and is three bays deep. Square-headed, double-hung wood windows with a pointed-arched tracery pattern, as well as the diamond-shaped attic window in the front gable end, give the building its vernacular Gothic Revival appearance. The church is currently clad in asbestos siding and features a standing-seam metal gable roof with overhanging eaves and an exterior side brick flue. A gable-roofed entrance bay is located on the front of the building with side concrete block lean-tos that contain bathrooms. The bathrooms are naturally lighted by small windows of glass bricks laid in a Latin cross pattern. A shed-roofed rectangular chancel bay projects from the rear and appears original. A mid-20th-century concrete block wing projects to the north side of the original church. The roof is clad in v-crimp metal and the wood windows are 1/1-sash. Other details in the wing include an interior brick flue, several doors, and T-111 siding in the attic story.

The interior of Ebenezer Baptist Church is very much intact and features original flooring, wainscot, and pews. The side addition contains a kitchen and meeting room.

A cemetery surrounds the church on three sides and contains approximately 200 marked graves. The oldest stones are located directly adjacent to the back of the church building and the earliest legible death date noted is 1892. A number of graves are marked only with small fieldstones bearing no inscriptions and in fact may predate the 1892 burial. Several prominent local African-American families are buried in the cemetery including Crittendon, Jackson, Laws, Morris, Payne, Sloane, Tigney, Washington, Williams, Wedlock, and Whitmore, among others.² These include some of the first trustees of the church when it was established in the mid-1880s.

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The Greenway Historic District contains several African-American churches similar in form to Ebenezer Baptist Church. This supports its inclusion as a contributing building as well as the surrounding cemetery as a contributing site that sits on the same parcel.

ENDNOTES

¹ Doleman, Gary M. Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church. Unpublished letter. October 10, 2004:1.

² Royston, Don and Mary. Cemeteries of Clarke County Virginia. Athens, Georgia: New Papyrus Publishing, 2005:27-31.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

When the Greenway Historic District was first proposed for listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places in 1993, Virginia Department of Historic Resources staff recommended not including structures that were surrounded by non-contributing resources or the jumping back-and-forth across streets, particularly at the boundary edge of a district. Man-made features, in this case, US Route 340, were also used to define boundaries. Although the district crosses the Route 340 boundary (Lord Fairfax Highway) north of this property to take in multiple contributing resources, it was felt that the isolated nature of Ebenezer Baptist Church and cemetery (DHR # 021-0657) did not warrant the crossing of Route 340 at that location. However, subsequent research has provided a persuasive argument as to the historic significance of this resource, justifying the increase of the Greenway Historic District Boundary to include the property.

Ebenezer Baptist Church and cemetery were established in the late 1880s. Although a datestone in the current building indicates the original church was constructed in 1897, historic research and associated gravestones suggest that a church was on or near the site by 1885.¹

The Greenway Historic District focuses primarily on a rural area in southern Clarke County. Containing not only large farms and estates, the district also includes the African-American communities of Sugar Hill and Bethel. In addition, the village of White Post contains several African-American resources that are already included within the Greenway Historic District boundaries, the most relevant of which is the Mt. Olive Baptist Church (DHR #021-0658).² The building was constructed 1908 and is located directly across Route 340 from Ebenezer Baptist Church.

The original Greenway Historic District nomination did not specify Ethic Heritage as an area of significance, but rather listed only architecture; agriculture; education; exploration/settlement; industry; and transportation. However, the original nomination did discuss the development and architecture of several other African-American churches, thereby justifying the inclusion of Ebenezer Baptist Church within the boundaries. Not only is the church still used by an African-American congregation, many of whom reside outside the county, but it also falls within the listed period of significance for the entire district (ca. 1760-1943).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In 2002, as part of a CLG project #66014, a comprehensive report of African-American histories and communities in Clarke County was published. *The African-American Historic Context Final Report: Clarke County* identified numerous African-American communities and their associated resources. Among these was Ebenezer Baptist Church and Cemetery, which predates the Mt. Olive Baptist Church by more than two decades.

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A description of Ebenezer Baptist Church's historic context was included in the 2002 report:

The community [White Post] contains two African-American churches, both located on the north end of the village, while the black school house is located on the south end....After the Civil War, White Post grew in size as is reflected in the surviving architecture. Some of the new citizens were certainly freed slaves who once lived on the surrounding plantations. The 1890 Land Tax Book showed nine black landowners in White Post at that time: Robert Bannister, Sawney Hunter, Robert Lovett, Kate Lovett, George Moses, H. Robinson, John Strange, Jeff Williams, and William Walker.

White Post has two Baptist churches used by African-Americans, both located at the north end of the village. Ebenezer Baptist Church, a 1-story, gable-end rectangular building with a small cemetery behind it sits on the west side of the Lord Fairfax Highway, while Mt. Olive Baptist Church, a vernacular Gothic-Revival-style building with central bell tower is sited on the east side of the road. Behind Mt. Olive Church is the Charles "Buster" Jackson Cemetery and just south is a one-story brick building from the late 19th century known as the old Meade School. In an 1884 deed Emma Grigsby transferred to the Trustees of the "Colored Baptist Church at White Post" one acre "adjoining lot of Ralph Laws in the south west- Robinson the west- the balance of the lot...fronting on the public road leading from White Post to Boyceville...to be used as a cemetery of burial ground in connection with the said church" (CCDB S:211). This appears to be Ebenezer Baptist Church and the cemetery behind it....

It appears that religious politics were at play in this small community that created a need for two churches. This is supported in historian Thomas D. Gold's *History of Clarke County, Virginia* published in 1914. A chapter on White Post was written by Dr. H. C. Sommerville. He devoted a portion of his description to the black community,

"There is a considerable settlement of colored people chiefly in the northern part of the village. They have two quite respectable, good churches, with regular preaching. Among these people there are some valuable, good, citizens, owning comfortable homes....⁴

The land on which Ebenezer Baptist Church and cemetery are situated was deeded to the congregation through the estate of John Alexander by the successive owners Emma and Blanche Grigsby, who affected the conveyance in 1884. The deed transferred the property to the Trustees "for the use and benefit of the said Colored Baptist Church at White Post to be used as a cemetery or burial ground in connection with said church and with full power and authority in the said church…"⁵

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John Alexander was a large land holder in Clarke County who is recorded in the 1860 US Census as owning more than 800 acres and 38 slaves. Not only did Alexander provide the land for Ebenezer Baptist Church, but it was also his land on which the white Methodist Church was built. Alexander was described by Dr. Sommerville in Gold's *History of Clarke County* as being unconventional.

"He [Alexander] was peculiar in his dress or costume—wore his hair long, tied with a string in queue style. He almost always attended service, and was importuned by some of the church members to unite with the church, his reply was, 'He had no occasion to belong to the church, because the church belonged to him,' meaning that he had assumed a certain indebtedness for the [White Post Methodist] church which it had failed to cancel."

ENDNOTES

¹ Clarke County Deed Book S:213.

Mt. Olive is now known as Life in the Word Church of Jesus Christ.

³ Kalbian, Maral S. and Leila O. W. Boyer. African-American Historic Context Final Report: Clarke County, 2002 85.

⁴ Gold, Thomas D. *History of Clarke County Virginia*. Berryville, VA: Chesapeake Book Company, 1962 [reprint of original 1914 edition]:55.

⁵ Clarke County Deed Book S:213.

⁶ Gold:53.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCES

Clarke County Deed Books, Land Tax Books, and Will Books; Berryville, Virginia.

Doleman, Gary M. Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church. Unpublished letter. October 10, 2004.

Gold, Thomas D. *History of Clarke County Virginia*. Berryville, VA: Chesapeake Book Company, 1962 [reprint of original 1914 edition].

Kalbian, Maral S. <u>National Register Nomination: Greenway Historic District</u>. Richmond, VA: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, July, 1993.

Kalbian, Maral S. and Leila O. W. Boyer. *African-American Historic Context Final Report: Clarke County*, 2002.

Royston, Don and Mary. *Cemeteries of Clarke County Virginia*. Athens, Georgia: New Papyrus Publishing, 2005.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The following addition should be made to the verbal boundary description: from the eastern right-of-way of US Route 340 at reference UTM coordinate 17 750817E 4327304N west across US Route 340 to the southeast corner of the property delineated as Clarke County Tax Map 28A 79A. From that point west to the southwest property corner, thence northeast to the northwest property corner of Clarke County Tax Maps 28 A 79, thence southeast to the northeast property corner, and back across US Route 340 to UTM coordinate 17 750839E 4327333N.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

With the addition of Ebenezer Baptist Church and Cemetery (DHR #021-0657) to the Greenway Historic District, the district continues to encompass the largest concentration of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early- to-mid-twentieth-century historic resources of a primarily agricultural area that also includes the village of White Post. These resources tell a distinctive story of the growth and development of a rural landscape in the southwestern portion of Clarke County. Ebenezer Baptist Church is part of the visual character of this area as now the boundary is located directly across Lord Fairfax Highway. In addition, all other boundaries of the existing district were reexamined to see whether other increases should be made. No other possible expansions were noted that tie in with the historical development of the existing district.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

All photographs are of: **Greenway Historic District (Boundary Increase 2007)**

VDHR File Number: **021-0963**Location: **Clarke County, Virginia**Date of photograph: **November 2006**Photographer: **Maral S. Kalbian**

Negative Number: 23819

Negatives filed at Virginia Department of Historic Resources in Richmond, Virginia.

Photo 1 of 3

View: Ebenezer Baptist Church, looking northwest

Negative no. [20]

Photo 2 of 3

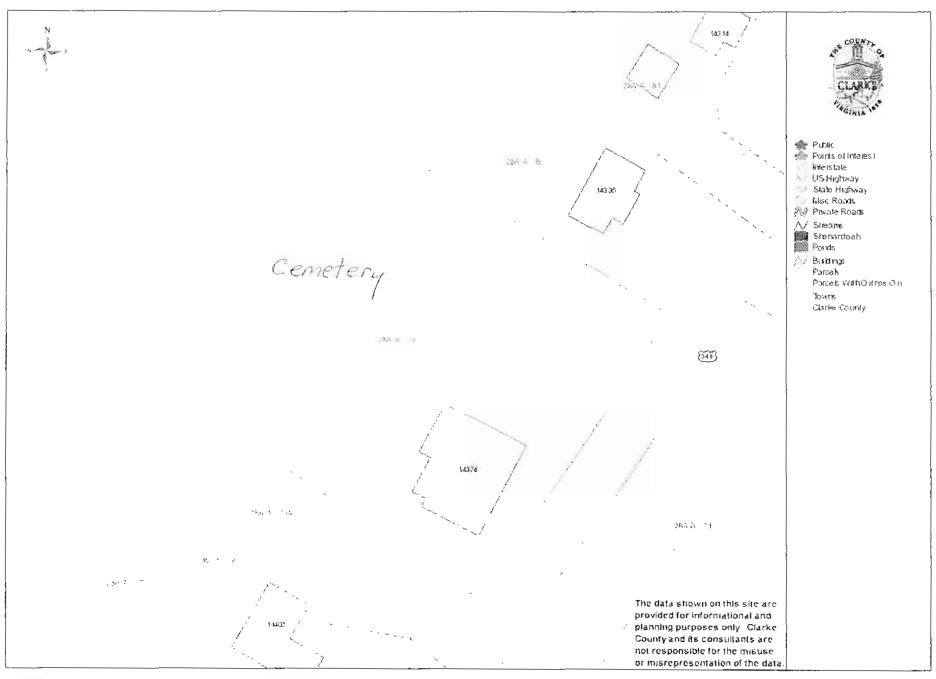
View: Detail of cornerstone

Negative no. [19]

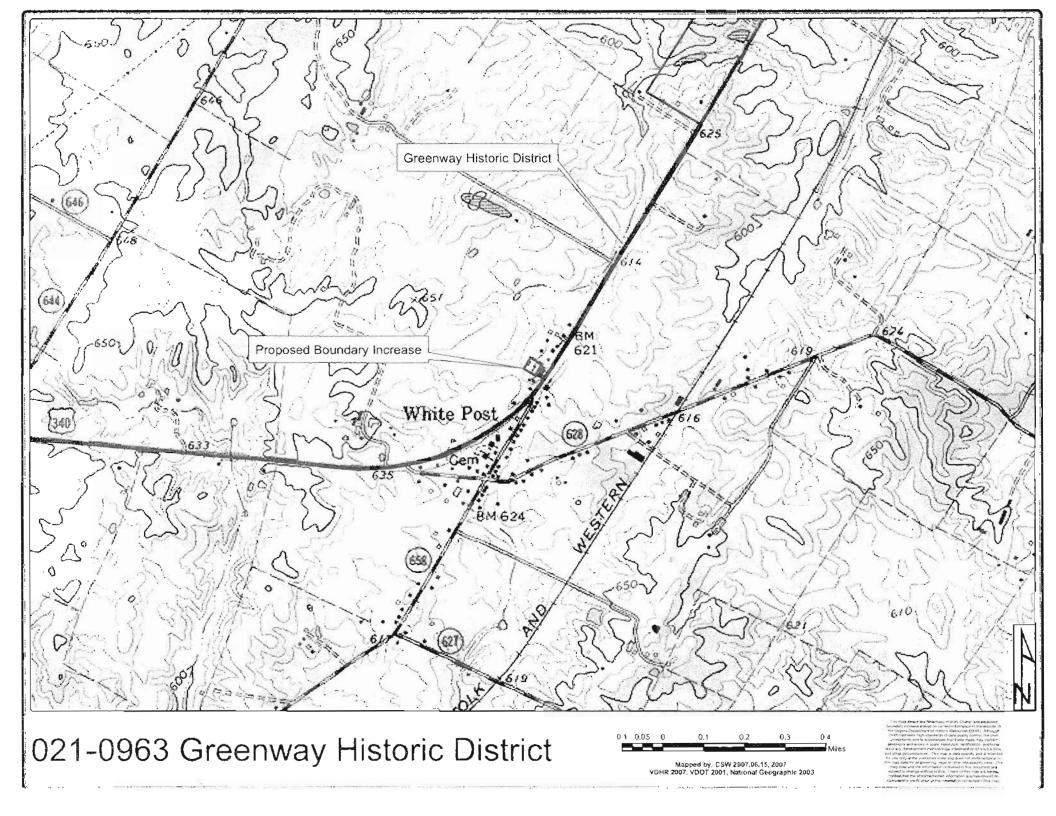
Photo 3 of 3

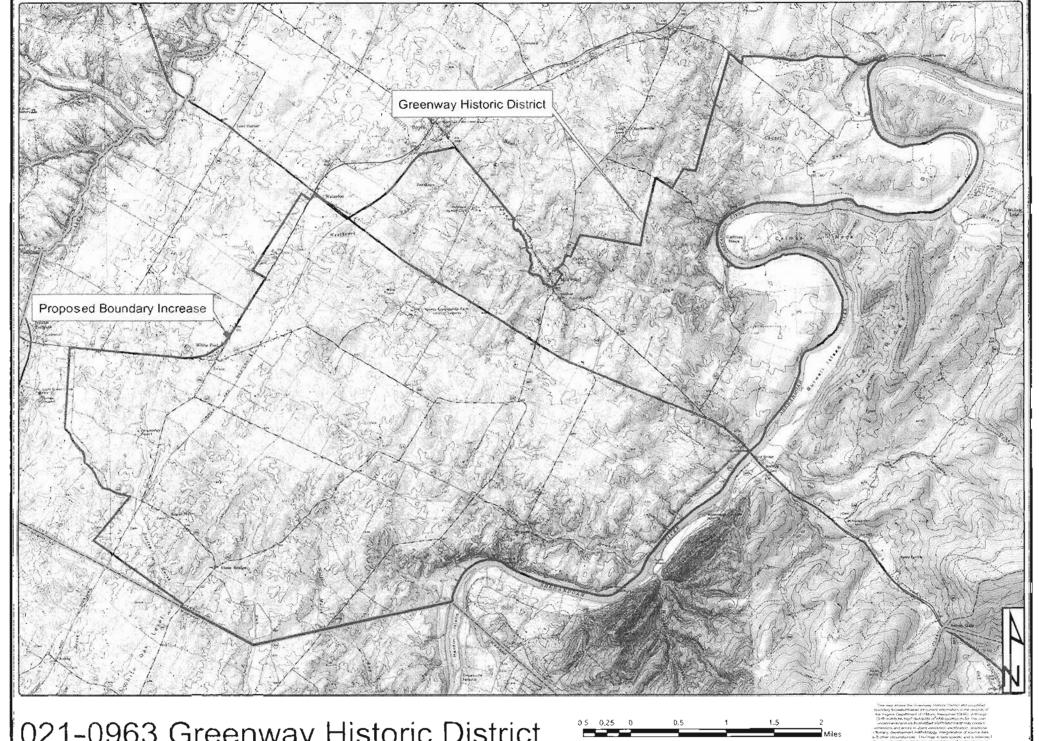
View: Cemetery, looking southwest from behind church

Negative no. [16]



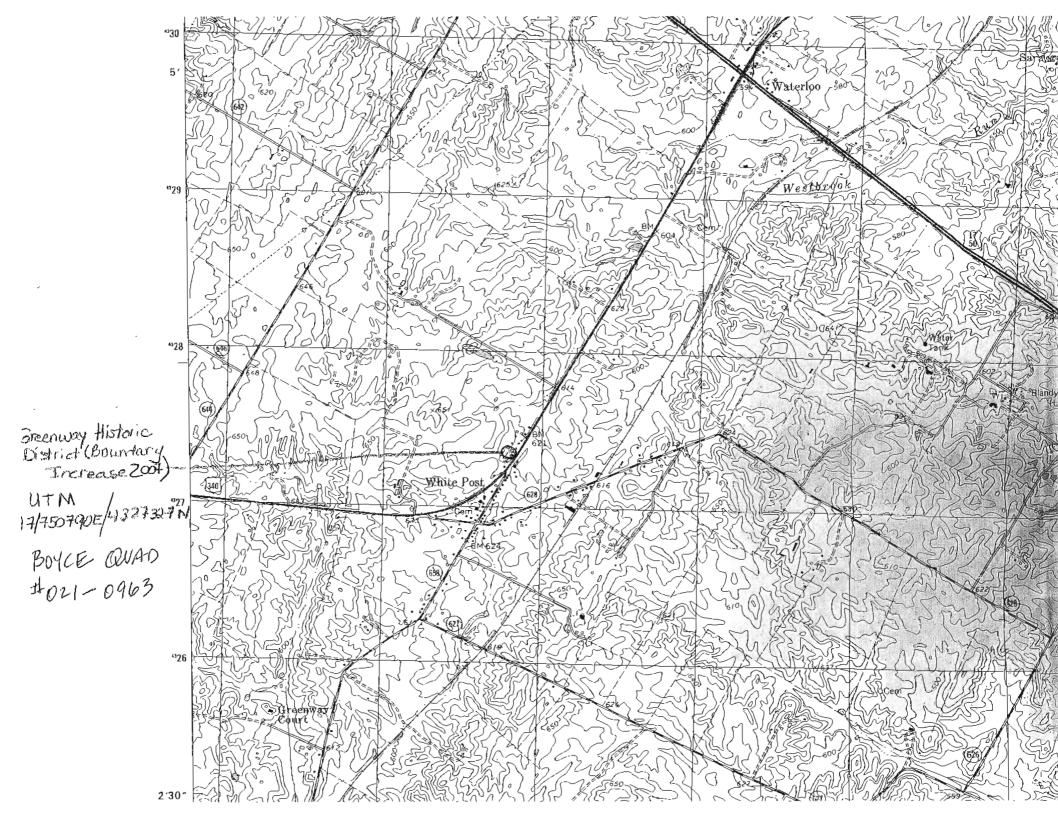
Greenway Historic District (Boundary Increase 2007)

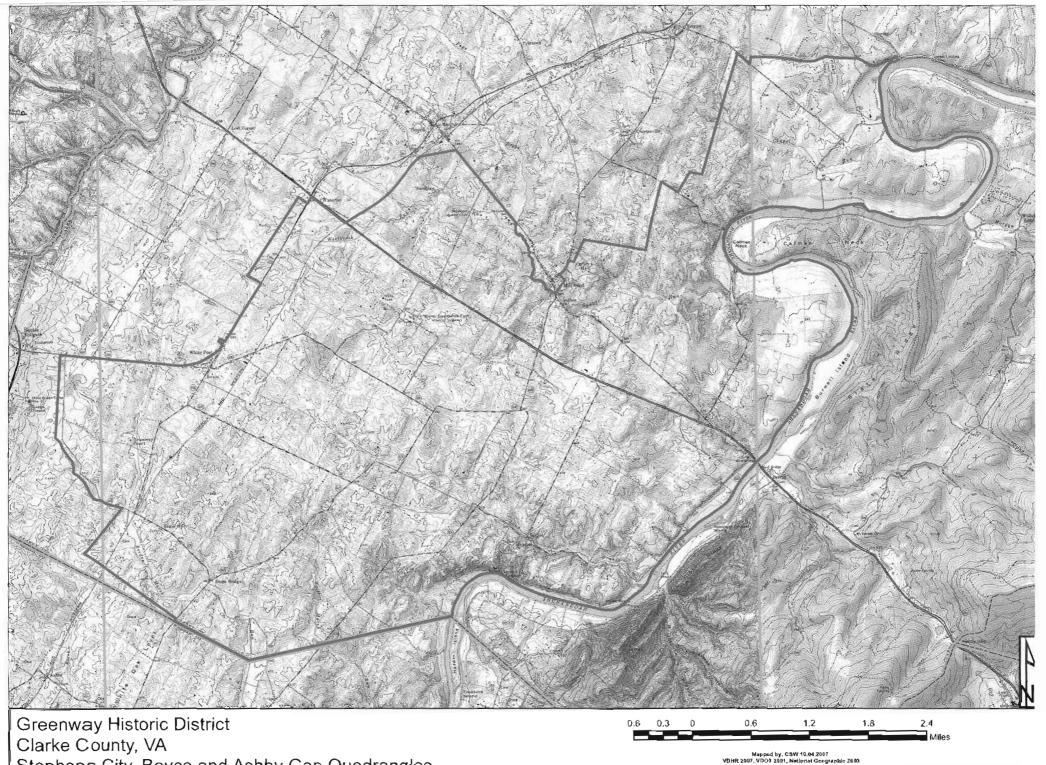




021-0963 Greenway Historic District







Stephens City, Boyce and Ashby Gap Quadrangles